AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 1, insert the following as separate paragraphs:

--BACKGROUND

1. Field of the Invention--.

Page 1, before line 8, insert the following as a separate paragraph:

--2. Description of Related Art--.

Page 3, before line 29, insert the following as a separate paragraph:

--BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Page 4, before line 23, insert the following as a separate paragraph:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

Page 5, before line 8, insert the following as a separate paragraph:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EXEMPLARY EMBODIMENTS--.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 12, as follows:

Once the FS, UT and SIT are produced (in the word-processing environment) they

are captured in the requirements database as described above in the same manner as each

SRS. Figure 5 4 is a representation of such a set of documents captured in the database

103, which correspond to the examples given above. The documents comprise SRSA

401, SRSB 503, FSA 405, UTA 507 and SITA 409 (there is also a document called SS

411, which will be described in more detail below).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 19, as follows:

Software production is often carried out incrementally, i.e. by iterative build, so

that after the initial release new versions or updates are released from time to time. This

may be as a result of bug fixes, the incorporation of new functionality or the staged

production and release of a large system. The result of this is that each release may be

made up of parts of the software from previous releases and new software. In the present

embodiment, the parts that form a particular release are recorded in a file called a Scope

Statement (SS). Each release or version of the software has an entry in the SS that

indicates which FS elements need to be implemented to complete the particular version

of the software. For the above example only the FS element FSA-FS-~~123~~456 is included

in the current version (Build 4a.1) and the SS 411 refers only to this element identifier.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 31, as follows:

When the UT, SIT and SS are captured in the database 103 the process described

above with reference to Figure 6 is repeated for the new files. In these cases the UT, SIT

and SS are source files for the process and the FS and SRSs are the respective target files.

When the processing of the SRSs, FS, UT, SIT and SS are complete each file (except the

SRSs) will have an associated link file stored in the database 103 as shown in Figure 6.

The SRSs do not have link files as they do not contain references to elements in other

files and as such cannot act as a source file. The FS 405, UT 407, SIT 409 and the SS

411 have corresponding link files 405a, 407a, 409a and 411a. The FS link file comprises

links to the SRSs ~~301~~401, ~~303~~403, the UT link file 407a comprises links to the FS 405,

the SIT link file comprises links to the SRSs 401, 403 and the SS ~~411~~ link file 411a

comprises links to the FS 405.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 20, as follows:

Figure 7 is a further illustration of the links contained in the link sets 405a, 407a,

409a and 411a in which the links in each of the link sets are illustrated by arrows.

Arrows 405b represent the links from the element FSA-FS-456 to the element SRSA-

SRS-123 and from the element FSA-FS-246 to the element SRSB-SRS-~~456~~123. Arrows

407b represent the links from the element UTA-UT-135 to the element FSA-FS-456 and

from the element UTA-UT-678 to the element FSA-FS-246. Arrows 409b represent the

links from the element SITA-SIT-246 to both elements SRSA-SRS-123 and SRSB-SRS-

321. Arrow 411b represents the link between SS entry for build 4a.1 and element FSA-

FS-456.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 30, as follows:

During the software production lifecycle the engineers and managers working with

the software need to inspect the data captured in the database 103. In order to facilitate

this a graphical user interface (GUI) is provided as shown in Figure 8. The left-hand

column 801 contains the element identifier for each of the elements in a file being

viewed. The central column 803 of the main window contains the text and headings of

the element corresponding to the element identifier in the left-hand column 801. The

right-hand column 805 contains a list of the element identifiers that are referred to by

each element in the central column 803 and the element identifiers of those elements

from other files that refer to the displayed element. Next to each cross-reference in the

right-hand column 805, soft-buttons are provided. Each button is either a ~~left~~ right facing

arrowhead 807 or a ~~right~~ left facing arrowhead 809. ~~Left~~ Right facing arrowheads 807

indicate a link to an element that the displayed element refers to. Conversely, ~~right~~ left

facing arrowheads 809 indicate a link to an element that refers to the displayed element.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 1, as follows:

~~CLAIMS~~ What is Claimed is:.